

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 6, please replace paragraph [0020] with the following:

-- Preferentially, the production of multilayer coatings with layers of high-refraction and low-refraction material alternating one on the other. Preferentially, Nb₂O₅, Ta₂O₅, ZrO₂ or Al₂O₃ and, as low-refraction material, SiO₂, are provided.--

Page 14-15, please replace paragraph [0068] with the following:

--Single layers of a high-refracting material, such as Nb₂O₃, Ta₂O₅, TiO₂, ZrO₂, Al₂O₃ require for a low optical loss a deposition in the reactive sputtering with only a slight oxygen deposit, the coatings being thereafter exposed to the reactive plasma of the plasma source. The energy of the particles of the reactive plasma of the plasma source 5 is preferably lower than 50 eV. For low-refraction single layers such as SiO₂ can also be obtained with a greater oxygen deficit in the reactive sputtering followed by the action of the reactive plasma of the plasma source.--